THE GENESEE FARMER

Vol. IV. **ROCHESTER, DECEMBER 20, 1834.** **No. 51.**

Published by Luther Tucker.

TERMS —The Farmer is published every Saturday, making an annual volume of 416 pages, to which is added a Title-page and Index, at the low price of $2,50 or $2,00 if payment is made at the time of subscribing.

☞ All subscribers must commence with the volume, Jan. 1, or with the half volume, July 1. No subscription taken for less than six months.

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THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, DEC. 20, 1834.

Stat magni nominis umbra.

It is humbling to human pride to witness the heedless apathy that follows the spirits of the great to the mansions where the mighty rest. THOMAS SAY, whose name it is difficult to utter without stopping to indulge the recollections that cluster around it, has terminated his earthly career, with scarcely a passing notice from his countrymen. If life was measured by its usefulness, or intellectual acquirements, his would furnish evidence that "Wisdom is the gray hairs to man, and an unspotted life is old age." His death is emphatically a loss to the Republic,—his discoveries in Natural Science are legibly marked in all the journals devoted to that object,—his works in Entomology ought to be in the possession of every philosophical Farmer, as well as in the Library of the Naturalist,—his Conchology, we understand, has been left unfinished, but in its unfinished state would honor any other individual,—his contributions to Silliman's Journal, to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, of which institution he may justly be called one of the founders, are striking instances of his public spirit and devotion to every department of scientific research,—his discoveries in Major Long's expedition are embodied in the history of his country; and we cannot *yet* indulge the melancholy anticipation that his memory will be neglected by those who knew him best. C.

Friendsville, Susq. Co., Penn., 12 mo. 6, 1834.

Notices.

A *Good* SUBSCRIBER.—It will be seen by reference to the List of Payments in the last number of the Farmer, that one of its subscribers has paid for *four years in advance.* Such tokens of approbation are truly gratifying. We feel grateful for the promptness with which so large a portion of our subscribers have paid their dues; and while returning our thanks to them, would suggest to those who are still indebted, whether for one, two, three or four years (for there are a few who owe for the work from its commencement,) the propriety of immediately remitting, which they may do at our risk by mail, the small sums they may be indebted for the Farmer. By so doing, they would perform an act of justice and confer a favor of much importance on the Publisher.

ITALIAN RYE GRASS.—The following is from a subscriber in Dutchess county:—"In number 12 of vol. 3, Mr. BUEL speaks of a new kind of Rye Grass—he also says that he will give the result of his experiment with it. I do not recollect to have seen any thing about it since, and should be pleased to hear if it answered his expectation."

CHINESE MULBERRY.—In answer to the inquiry of a friend at Perry Center, we would state the Morus multicaulis and the Chinese Mulberry are the same; and for directions for its culture and propagation, would refer him to the various essays which have appeared in this paper during the present year.

☞The following is from a private note of a correspondent of this paper:—"On the last page of the Farmer of Sept. 20, is a short extract, beginning with—'I positively never knew a man in the country too poor to take a newspaper,' signed Dr. Franklin. I ought to be obliged to the wag who so kindly put that venerable author to it, for it was an extract from an article I wrote some time before for the Norristown Herald."

☞We shall be glad to receive the Review which one of our friends, in a private note, informs us he proposes to write.

On the Influence of the Moon.

At what time and place the manufacturers of Almanacs first undertook to foretel! the weather, we have at present no documents to show; but doubtless it was at a period when the faith of the people in the skill of astrologers was unshaken. The ball having once started, it continued to roll on. Men who made no pretensions to Astrology, also interlarded their columns with news of the weather for the coming year; and the ignorant were ready with their sixpences. Even intelligent minds scarcely considered it an offence,—such was the power of custom,—though the practice was based on deception; and whether it was in sport, or in earnest for the sake of gain, will be a point of not much consequence to the moralist.

It is about forty years since we saw the first Almanac which abjured this absurdity. An apology for such a departure from an old custom, was deemed necessary; and by way of atonement, the weather as observed in a preceding year, was presented from a meteorological register. The cause of sound sense is now evidently more advanced than in that day; and these shadows that have so long darkened our land, are rapidly contracting. In Bowen's American Almanac, in The Temperance Almanac, and in some others, no predictions of the weather are permitted; neither is there any representation of the human body surrounded by the signs, indicating the right time to take physic, or to bleed! It is now believed that the judgment of a good physician is better than the judgment of an astrologer; and the Moon is not allowed to interfere with our business, except in lighting us on our way, or by raising tides on the ocean.

Perhaps indeed we ought to mention that some philosophers have lately advocated the old opinion that the Moon takes a part in regulating our weather. M. Arago of Paris has endeavored to show from the observations of Professor Schubler during twenty eight years in Germany, that the greatest number of rainy days take place between *the first quarter* and the Full Moon; that the least number *is* between the last quarter and the New Moon; and that the proportion in round numbers is as 5 to 6. From observations made at Vienna, he also concludes that it rains more frequently on the day of the Full Moon than on that of the New Moon, in the proportion of 26 to 29; or (to compare it with the first result) as 5 1-5 is to 5 4 5; and further that the nearer the Moon is to the Earth, the greater are the chances of rain. Now we might be disposed to admit all this, if no other philosophers had examined the matter; but they have, and we shall reply in the words of Dr. Olbers: "The results deduced from one series of observations, are *always contradicted* by another series;" and we think that much light may be thrown on this subject from the discovery of Twining who found that seasons of a particular character cluster into periods.*

A later article on Meteorology, read at the Natural History Society of Geneva by F. Marcet, the substance of which has been published in the Biblicothique Universelle and translated for Silliman's Journal,—shows from observations made at that place during thirty four years, that "the days of the New Moon and the days of the first quarter have been just about as liable to be rainy days as any other common day of the month; while the days of the Full Moon and those *of the last quarter* have been *rather* more liable." Here on two points we have a confirmation of the truth of Olbers' remarks. *The first quarter*, contrary to Aragos' theory, was not more rainy than any common day; and secondly, *the last quarter* which was among the *driest* days of the month in Germany, was found to be among the *wettest* at Geneva.

Another circumstance is worthy of consideration. "Although the days of the Full Moon have been rather more frequently wet than those of the New Moon, it does not follow that more water has fallen at Full Moon than at the change." On the contrary, there fell in 100 days of New Moon 103 lines *nearly*, while in 100 days of Full Moon there fell only 90 lines of rain. Now it appears to us that Chance or Accident must be an agent of no mean import, in these results, unless we can believe that the Moon can dispose our atmosphere to rain *the most* at one time and *the oftenest* at another. We are not prepared to adopt such philosophy.

On the whole we feel warranted in recommending again the excellent essay of Dr. Olbers, which we copied into our third volume at pages 192-200; and we are willing to join him in believing that "the influence of the Moon upon the weather is *so very small* that it is *totally lost* among the infinite number of other forces and causes which change the equilibrium of our very movable atmosphere."

The Moon has been charged with intermeddling in another way however, to which we shall now advert. At the time when it was currently believed that the planets regulated the destiny of every individual of our race, it is not surprising

* Genesee Farmer vol. 4, p. 17.

that the Vegetable Kingdom should have been deemed subject to a similar control; and that to sow peas, or to plant cabbages, was judicious or otherwise according to the phases of the Moon. It is humiliating to think of the rubbish that encumbered the minds of our forefathers; and it would be well for us who live in a more enlightened period, to see that no spots obscure our intellectual vision—that no remnants of the superstition of the darker ages, are found amongst us. If any of our readers should differ with us in opinion however, let them bring their notions to the test of a careful and rigorous experiment. We shall have no fears for the result. It was experiment with an earnest desire to search out the truth, that dissipated so much of the errors of the olden time; and for which modern Europe and her descendants are indebted to the genius of Bacon.

We conclude by offering a paragraph from Loudon's Encyclopædia of Gardening:

"Those superstitious observances attendant on a rude state of society, retained their ground in British gardening till the end of the seventeenth century. Meager, Mascal, Worlidge, and the authors who preceded them, regulate the performance of horticultural operations by the age of the Moon. Turneps or onions according to these authors, sown when the Moon is full, will not bulb but send up flower stalks; and fruit trees planted or grafted at that season, will have their period of bearing greatly retarded. A weak tree is to be pruned in the increase, and a strong tree in the wane of the Moon. Quintinye seems to have been the first to oppose this doctrine in France, and through Evelyn's translation of his *Complete Gardener*, he seems to have overturned it also in England. "I solemnly declare," he says, "that after a diligent observation of the Moon's changes for thirty years together, and an inquiry whether they had any influence in gardening, the affirmative of which has been so long established among us, I perceived that it was no weightier than old wifes' tales; and that it had been advanced by unexperienced gardeners. I have therefore followed what appeared most reasonable, and rejected what was otherwise; in short, graft at what time of the Moon you please, if your graft be good, and grafted on a proper stock, provided you do it like an artist, you will be sure to succeed. In the same manner, sow what sorts of grain you please, and plant as you please, in any quarter of the Moon, I'll answer for your success, the first and the last day of the Moon being equally favorable."

Labelling Plants.

The N. E. Farmer furnishes the following from an English publication, and is confident that it will prove useful to Horticulturists:

On a new Method of writing on Zinc for labelling Plants.—Mr. Henry Braconnot, the celebrated French chemist of Nantz, to whom we are indebted for the curious transformation of rags and other similar vegetable substances into starch, gum and sugar, by the agency of the Oil of Vitriol, and whose name is well known to the chemical world for various researches, connected with the analysis of vegetable substances, has given in the last number of the Annals de Chemie et de Physique, a preparation for writing on plates of Zinc, to label plants. The writer having a dislike to painting in oil, which is often inconvenient, and never endures a long time, resolved to turn his attention to some other way which would prove both ready and durable. The system of writing on zinc with a black crayon, which was accidentally discovered by M. Symon, an Amateur at Brussels, and noticed in the *Revue horticole* for October, 1832, and the *Bon Jardinier* for 1833, possessing many imperfections, Mr. Braconnot was induced to try some experiments, being anxious to obtain a liquid, or a species of ink, which would be perfectly durable when exposed to the changeableness of the weather, and also one with which he could write with ease. This end, after several proofs, he believes he has obtained, in a good measure. If it answer, he will have done both the botanists and amateurs a real service. The preparation is as follows:

Take Verdigris in powder, one part,
Sal Ammoniac in powder, one part,
Lamp-black, half a part,
Water, ten parts.

Mix them in a glass or pot mortar, at first only adding as much water as will mix it well, then add the remainder of the water. When placed in a vessel, let it be well shaken up from time to time, and in a few days it will be fit for use. This is not only excellent for labelling plants, but also for marking objects it is wished to preserve, in low, wet situations, becoming quickly dry, and being very durable.

Science of Horticulture.

Extracts from Kennies "Alphabet of Scientific Gardening for the use of beginners," published in London in 1833:

SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES OF STRIKING.

By certain experiments, not by any means praiseworthy, yet, beyond all question, correct, it has been proved that, if the head of a snail, or of an earth worm, be cut off, the body will not only live for a considerable time, but a new head will be reproduced, with a mouth capable of taking food. By similar experiments, it has been found that the legs of spiders, and the feet of frogs, when cut off, are reproduced.

Upon a similar principle, when the roots of certain plants, which are to them what the head is to animals, are cut off, new roots may, under peculiar circumstances be reproduced. The chief condition required for the reproduction of such roots, is the preservation of their life till the roots have time to form, and various expedients are resorted to with this view, as well as for the quick production of the roots.

CHINESE MODE OF STRIKING.

The simplest mode of striking is that practiced by the Chinese, and which I have tried successfully with the lilac. Lord Macartney was surprised to find in the Emperor of China's hall of audience a number of dwarf pines, oak, and orange trees bearing fruit, in frames filled with earth, and placed on tables. These are produced by selecting a fruit-bearing bough, with a good branchy head, and taking off from the stem a ring of bark about an inch in length. Around this is placed a ball of rich earth, tied on with bass, or coarse cloth, and the whole is kept moist by means of a vessel of water hung over it with a very small hole, or a thread, to convey the water drop by drop. The descending pulp being stopt short in its passage downwards towards the root, first forms root buds, which soon send out roots into the moist earth, and when these are deemed strong enough to feed the plant, the branch is cut off a little below, and the tree in miniature is ready for planting in a pot.

The process has been varied by having garden pots made so as to enclose the ring branch, and in this way dwarf fruit trees are often formed on the continent, where they are much prized.

STRIKING BY LAYERS.

The common mode of striking by layers proceeds on the same principle. Some plants may be said to propagate themselves by layers, such as the strawberry, which sends out runners that take root, and the ends of the common bramble sometimes take root in a similar way. A willow or a privet branch also, if accidentally bent down into the ground, will send out roots, and become a new tree if separated from the parent.

But in most instances, it is requisite so to interrupt the downward flow of the pulp, as to cause it to form root fibers, and hence, in practice, the branch intended as a layer is slit, tongued, or cut half through in a direction sloping upwards, or it is ringed as in the Chinese mode, or it is pierced in several directions by a brad-awl, or it is wired or twisted; all of which operations have the same design of checking the descent of the pulp, while the sap going up in the more central parts is not interrupted, and consequently the layered branch grows as well, if not better, than if it had not been so treated. The soil ought not to be too damp, otherwise the cut part may canker.

Towards the end of the autumn, layered plants are, for the most part, sufficiently furnished with new roots to feed them without farther dependence on the parent plant; but they are in general still weaker than seedlings, and require to be not only watered, but the more tender sorts not exposed to too bright sunshine.

STRIKING BY SLIPS OR CUTTINGS.

In the preceding modes of striking, the layer being partly in communication with the parent plant, is in no danger of perishing for want of food; but, in the case of cuttings, the circumstances are much the same as in the experiments alluded to made upon the snails and earth worms, inasmuch as they are deprived of their natural feeding organs, their root fibers. In the first instance, therefore, a cutting, like the headless snail and earthworm, must live entirely on the nutrient materials it already possesses, which are, as we have seen, partly laid up in the cells of the stem, but more particularly in the buds. Hence it becomes important to have a bud, or buds, on every cutting intended to be struck; but leaves, or at least many leaves, are disadvantageous, as tending to exhaust life, by giving off too much water and oxygen. In the case of evergreens, however, in which the action of the leaves is so slow as not to produce exhaustion, they must be left on, to assist in maturing the pump for the new roots, but no such leaves must remain below the surface of the soil, lest canker ensue.

The end of a cutting, to be planted in the soil, ought to contain a heel of older wood than the bole, or stem, and be cut very smooth, in order to prevent water from stagnating in any crevice or

bruise, and thus tending to rot the part. The heel of older wood is to prevent too much water being taken up by the more active and more open vessels of the bole, which would render the whole dropsical and sickly.

For the same reason, rich earth, very retentive of water, is bad for most cuttings; and species difficult to strike require to be planted either in pure sand, or in a soil containing a large proportion of sand, to drain off all superfluous water, which ought to be supplied in small quantities, but frequently, so as to keep it in constant circulation. Hence, orange trees can only be struck by a drain of broken potsherds in the bottom of the striking pots. This is one of the true scientific principles of striking cuttings.

Another is founded on the effects of light upon leaves, or buds, which being furnished with only a scanty supply of food, cannot stand much loss of water and oxygen; and hence they are covered with a bell-glass, both to modify the intensity of the light, (some light is indispensable,) and to render the included air moist, from the water given off in the form of vapor. Some fresh air, however, is as necessary as some light, in order to produce a healthy leaf pulp, and hence the bell-glasses must not be kept air tight.

The same principles of supplying regularly a moderate portion of water, so as not to cause dropsy by over-gorging, and of sheltering from too much dry air, and bright sunshine, so as not to cause exhaustion, regulates the striking of buds, or *eyes*, as they are termed, which always require a leaf attached, and even of leaves themselves, such as those of the cacti.

The after management of cuttings which have struck, is precisely like that of layers.

The Southern Agriculturist.

John D Legare, Esq. the talented and gentlemanly editor of the Southern Agriculturist, has disposed of that work to Mr. A. E. Miller, who has been the printer of it for some years, by whom it will be continued. Mr. Legare takes leave of his friends in the December number, in a pertinent and well written Farewell Address, from which we annex a couple of extracts.

ROTATION OF CROPS AND MANURES.

"Permit us at parting to point out a few of the defects, which appear most prominent to us, and to suggest a few improvements. In all we have to say, we must be brief, for neither space nor time will allow us more than merely to notice them.

The subject of Rotation of Crops and Manures—should command your serious attention. Without referring to the mooted point of what is the cause, or entering in the least into the discussion, it is sufficient for us to know, that any vegetable grown long on the same soil deteriorates, even when the ground is annually manured, unless the manure used, possesses the peculiar nutriment fitted for it, and so true is this admitted to be, that it is acted on even by the market gardeners near London, where rents are enormous, and manures made free use of. It is stated, moreover, on high authority, that it is a practice with them to lay down a part of their grounds in grasses, finding that the rotation of garden vegetables is not sufficient, and that by pursuing this course, their profits are increased.

If then it be so necessary, where manures are used to such an extent, as would astonish us in this country, how much more necessary must it be where so little is used, and where the supply is so limited. Rotation of crops, is in some measure, a substitute for manuring, and it is well known, that after plants of a certain class, have exhausted the soil of all nutriment which will support them, other plants will grow most luxuriantly on it, and be for some time very productive. These, in turn, exhaust the soil of their peculiar food, and have to yield their places to others. And such is the course pointed out by nature throughout the vegetable world, whether it be in the forest or in prairie, the cultivated or uncultivated land.

But a rotation of crops can seldom, if ever, be substituted for manuring, and should never be considered in that light, for although each plant may have a certain specific food, without which it cannot thrive, and which it may obtain by a change of soil, and which is not necessary for the healthy growth of other plants, which are to succeed, yet there are certain elementary constituents necessary for *all* plants, and which are required by all and consumed by all, and which can only be supplied by the annual decay of the vegetables which grow on the soil, or by manures. Where the operation is left to nature, the first takes place, but when man interferes, the second must be resorted to. The object, however, of manuring should not be merely to keep the soil at its pristine fertility, but to improve and make it more productive. To effect this, care should be taken that a greater quantity is added to a field than is taken from it. Nor should it be a matter of indifference what manure is carried into particular fields, for while some manures would be exceedingly beneficial in one field, they might be inoperative or the very reverse in another. Nor is it always necessary that the manure should contain either vegetable or animal substances. To a stiff clay soil, the addition of pure sand very often proves highly beneficial, and clay is the proper corrective of a light soil. Wood ashes, lime and marl, are most excellent manures when properly applied. But of all manures, that which is obtained from the stable and farm-yard, is the most beneficial, and consequently most to be prized. The greatest attention, therefore, should be paid to the collecting and augmenting of it. We need not here enter more fully into this branch of our subject. Our readers need only to refer to the back volumes of this journal for all information necessary.—The subject is undergoing investigation daily, and as these investigations shall bring to light new discoveries, they will be given in the *succeeding numbers* of this work."

WANT OF SYSTEM IN THE OPERATIONS OF FARMERS.

"Another point to which we would call your attention, is the *want of system* on most of our plantations. It is but too common for all the operations of the plantation to be performed, as it were on the spur of the moment, and not with that order and regularity which should always govern. Were our plantations under a more systematic arrangement, the laborers divided and properly apportioned to the various works suited to their strength or ability—the crops properly equalized as to quantity, so that neither may predominate to the injury of the rest; a strict accountability enforced, both from the overseer or manager, and from each driver or head of a gang; our planters would have far less trouble in the management of their plantations, and their profits, without doubt, be much increased. In order to facilitate these operations, as well as for reference, regular books should be kept, in which all the transactions of the plantation should be entered. As an example of what can be accomplished, we refer our readers to the account of "Hopeton," (the residence of J. Hamilton Couper, Esq.) given by us in the 6th volume of this journal, page 333. This place is well worthy of the attention of all of our planters, more especially the young. It is certainly one of the best conducted plantations in the Southern States, and we have, as yet, met with none as well managed, either here or at the North."

A Remarkable Pear Tree; Flat

STONES AT THE ROOTS OF FRUIT TREES.

A friend, to whom we are much indebted for the favor has sent us the following extract from an English publication:

DENTON HALL.

At this hour the gray massy walls contrasted finely with the beauty and fertility around it. The East side is covered completely with ivy. The South, a noble pear tree completely covers—describing in fact the whole range of the building—in summer one sheet of blossom, in winter loaded with fruit. How many generations have enjoyed its fruit cannot now be well ascertained; an old man, who died recently at the age of 80, declared that when he was a boy it was as large then as now.

It is worth while to remark that when the present occupier of the hall was recently taking up the stumps of two very old fruit trees, he found at the bottom of each, a large flat stone, evidently placed for the purpose of preventing the roots from striking downwards into the clay, and inducing them to shoot laterally into the light soil.

The plan of placing a large flat stone, with a layer or two of earth above was not long since announced as a great discovery, a grand improvement in horticulture.

By the Editor.—The above article may give useful information to many who are by no means novices in the art of cultivating fruit trees. But persons may have announced the plan as a novelty who really believed it to be such; and of their own invention. Different persons may invent or discover the same thing without intercommunication or knowledge of each other's discovery or intention. The Hon. J. Welles has, we believe, improved on the above mentioned practice. In a communication for the Mass. Agr. Repos. for Jan., 1825, Mr. Welles states his plan, and says, "It was in effect to lay aside and reserve the two upper strata, and remove about a foot of the gravelly or dead earth, and to replace that depth with small stones," &c. We should think small stones might be preferable, because they would retain moisture, and present interstices to fibrous roots, at the same time prevent the descent of a large tap root. And the tree might be less liable to be blown over by wind than if it were founded on a flat rock, or an impenetrable pavement.—*N. E. Far.*

For the Genesee Farmer.

Common Roads, Road Laws, &c.

Mr. Editor—I desire, through the medium of the Genesee Farmer, to invite the attention of my fellow citizens to the subject of common roads. To this subject, although it has been agitated in the Farmer, much less attention has been given, than its importance evidently demands. Every citizen accustomed to travel, knows that the common roads of this state, turnpikes included, are rarely, if ever, good, and that, during a large portion of every year, they are always bad. No satisfactory reason can be assigned, wherefore our public roads should be kept in so imperfect a condition. Unquestionably, the state of New-York is able to supply itself with excellent roads, in all directions. For the accomplishment of such an object, the resources of the state are abundantly sufficient. There are no natural obstacles to its accomplishment, that cannot be easily overcome. Say then, fellow citizens, is it a matter of indifference to you, whether you travel on a firm smooth path, or in traveling, jolt over stones and causeways, poach in mud, and sink in mud-holes?

In getting along as we do, with our bad, nay, wretched roads, there is no exhibition of public economy. The advantages of good roads, resulting from greater speed in traveling, from being able to convey greater burdens, from greater safety to travelers, from less injury to beasts of burden, and less damage to carriages, would quickly remunerate all the expenses incident to raising our common roads, from their present miserable condition, to a standard of excellence. Among the advantages resulting from the possession of good roads, the vastly increased pleasure of traveling is not to be overlooked.

The standard of roads in this state, (and the remark applies to the other states) is altogether too low. It is unaccountable that, while many things have been invented, and great things done, by various means, to improve the condition of society, and especially, while internal improvement has been so emphatically the order of the day, it has not occurred to the agents of government, that the condition of the country is susceptible of vast improvement, in relation to common roads.

Canals and Railways are improvements of inestimable value. The policy that devised them, and the skill and enterprise with which they were achieved, are worthy of the highest commendation. I have no doubt, that the general interest of the citizens of this state, admits of farther improvement, by an extension of these noble works. Yet I venture to say, there remains no object for legislative action, with intent to improve the internal condition of the country, deserving of greater regard, than that which relates to the improvement of common roads. To this subject, legislative committees, appointed for the express purpose of investigating the road interests of the state, should give the whole power to their minds.

A radical change in the laws of this state, relative to highways, is absolutely necessary. It may not be easy to devise a new system that will, in all respects, operate to perfection. This should not be expected. Yet, the fact being obvious, that the laws now existing in this state, relative to roads, are utterly inadequate, replete with imbecility, and productive in their effects, of great waste of the public resources, in time misspent, and in labor badly planned, badly executed, misdirected, and misapplied, the Legislature should not hesitate to adventure on the experiment of a change. Let a new system of road laws be produced, and as it may subsequently be found to contain imperfections, let amendments be made. I urge this the more earnestly, because I know that under the provisions of the laws now existing, by which nearly the whole care of making and improving roads is confided to pathmasters, nothing praiseworthy, in relation to common roads, will ever be done.

That able correspondent of the Genesee Farmer who styles himself Viator, has in his brief essays on the subject of roads, detected, as easily he might, many errors which prevail, in the practice of making and repairing roads. His remarks are worthy of great regard. They should be heeded by road officers. Yet I am not aware, that they have had the effect to produce any material change, in the practice of pathmasters. The business confided to their care, is still conducted, as it always has been, chiefly in a manner unskillful and inefficient. I am satisfied, there is no reason to look for any thing better, under the existing laws.

Viator complains, that a large amount of the labor, expended on roads, is applied so injudiciously, as not only to be useless, but absolutely pernicious. I accord with him in this complaint. While performing a short journey, in June last, at the time when highway work for the season was about closing, I had opportunities of witnessing painful specimens of the misapplication of labor on roads. I verily believe, that more than half the labor, recently expended, and then expending, on the road which I traveled, was so indiscretely applied, as to render the road permanently worse, rather than better.

My principal object in introducing this subject to the readers of the Farmer, is, to prevail, if possible, on patriotic gentlemen in the different towns and counties, to institute, and send up to the Legislature, petitions on the subject of the road laws.

DAN BRADLEY.

For the Genesee Farmer.

To Make a Hay Rack.

Place four scantling, four inches square, fourteen feet long by the stakes of your wagon, one above the other—make the lower ones fast, and place a floor between them—place eight bars of the above sizes, six feet long, across, with the lower ends of each between the two scantling on one side, and over the two on the other side. One pair of cross pieces should be placed at each end, and the other two pair at proper distances between the wheels. The whole should be stayed with small pins. The elevation will be such as to clear the wheels, so that two boards will be wanted each side and a cross piece at each end, to prevent the hay from falling down, and a standard forward to hold the lines. A perpendicular stake eighteen inches high in each of the cross bars will help to steady the load. W. P. R.

Maxim.—A capital error, that we think ourselves greater than we are, and value ourselves at less than we are really worth.

For the Genesee Farmer.

Practical Hints.--No. III.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

DISEASES IN HORSES, &c.

It is well known that within a few years a most laudable anxiety has been manifested among some of our farmers to improve our breeds of cattle, horses, sheep, &c. and that these exertions have been crowned with success. All these animals, particularly horses and sheep, are subject to diseases of a peculiar kind,—diseases which may easily be prevented, but which, if permitted to occur, are formidable if not fatal. The most destructive diseases of horses and sheep arise from a species of gadfly, that which attacks horses being known as the *Œstrus Equie*, and the one that injures sheep as the *Œstrus Ovis*. The farmer sees his horses in the plough or the wagon, fretful and restless; he sees the gadfly with the long pointed turned up extremity of its body hovering around his team and depositing its million of eggs upon the most exposed parts of the beast, while the animal, with the instinctive dread of danger from its most formidable enemy, makes every effort to keep off the depredator—I say he sees this, and suffers the seeds of death to be quietly deposited, when a moment's time would destroy the tormenting insect. But the insect's work is accomplished, and it goes off to die; and the animal goes for weeks with its legs covered with the nits, while the farmer makes no attempt to destroy them by the easy process of washing and scraping. Winter comes, the eggs have been received into the stomach of the horse, and are there speedily hatched, the "botts" come on, he runs to and fro for a horse doctor, tries all the remedies prescribed in such cases, many of which would kill a well animal, and finally skins a horse worth one hundred dollars, which fifteen minutes time spent in freeing from the eggs of the *Œstrus* would have preserved to a "good old age."

—

DISEASES OF SHEEP.

Many of our farmers have lost from fifty to one hundred sheep in a year by the worm or grub in the head. They had heard that it was well ascertained that the cause of the disease was a fly, which, during the summer months, deposited its egg in the nostrils of the sheep, and hatching there worked its way to the upper parts of the head, gradually occasioning debility and death. They had heard too that the *Œstrus Ovis* never attacks sheep whose noses around the nostrils are covered with tar, the fly disliking the odor of this article. The sheep owner sees the sheep running about his fields, thrusting their noses in a state of evident alarm into every furrow, a sure sign that they are attacked by their enemy; yet he pays no attention to them, and the fly does his work at his leisure. After finding by the loss of twenty or thirty, that the evil, which no care or medicine can remedy, has been committed, the owner may be seen running about with his tar pot, doing that which, had it been done in season, might have been of some avail, but which, so far as the disease is concerned, is now entirely useless. In all these cases "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

W. G.

No condition so low but may have hopes; none so high but may have fears.

For the Genesee Farmer.

"Everbearing Raspberry."

My attention was arrested by the account of the Everbearing Raspberry from the Cincinnati Chronicle (p. 371.) I presume it is the *Rubus odoratus* or Rose Flowering Raspberry; and if I am right in this conjecture, it will prove no great acquisition; for though Dr. Bigelow says it is commonly cultivated near Boston, and Dr. Barton that it is highly esteemed near Philadelphia, yet I have not much to add in its favor. It makes a much finer show in wild places where its beauty suffers nothing by comparison, and where it has the advantage of appearing in masses, than it does in a garden where its luxuriance must be restricted. I cultivated it for several years, and at last threw it out as a thing of more trouble than value.

The fruit indeed is large; and as "there is no disputing tastes," it may be finer to some palates than the common raspberry. Children frequently eat it in the absence of cherries and other cultivated fruit.

The Rose Flowering Raspberry is not rare in the Genesee Country, occurring frequently in rough broken ground, as in the sides of gullies; and I have seen it in great abundance on Goat Island at the Falls of Niagara.

A Practical Gardener.

For the Genesee Farmer.

Long Neck-yokes.

To Farmers, Teamsters and Stage Proprietors.

Mr Editor—I should be glad to see the following remarks on the subject of long neck yokes and long whippletres transferred to the Genesee Farmer, believing that if the plan recommended was generally adopted, our roads and teams would be materially benefitted:

"The following improvement in the harnessing of horses for the wagon, so as to do less injury to roads in traveling, has been suggested to the citizens of the state of New York by direction of the Board of Agriculture. Let the double whippletree and neck yoke be so long that each horse may travel in a line directly forward of the wheels. Traveling in this manner, it is said, would entirely prevent all ruts, as the horse's feet would beat down and level the small track of each preceding wagon, and in case some ruts or holes should begin to make their appearance, the horses to avoid them, would immediately turn to the right or left, and the wheels of course would follow, the consequence of which would be smooth, level and durable roads, with half the expense for repairs which is now laid out upon them.

"If the advantages which are suggested, will result from such a constructed harness as has been above described, the general use of them, especially on great market roads, ought to be introduced, as a partial use of them would not effect the object.

"The above remarks respecting teams, are submitted without any further comment than barely the suggestion that they are the result of the observations and experience of practical men in soms parts of our own country and in Europe, where every branch of husbandry has been progressing in improvement for five hundred, perhaps for one thousand years." See Farmer's Library, p. 169. Arator.

Gorham, Dec. 3, 1834.

For the Genesee Farmer.

On Planting Cut and Uncut Potatoes.

Mr. Tucker—Although very little accustomed to writing, I am constrained to remark upon an article in the Farmer of Nov. 22d, extracted from the N. E. Farmer, upon "Cut and uncut potatoes for planting," and which is called by the N. E. Editor, "a valuable article, and the experiment which it details, one that will go far to settle a very important point in husbandry." Now I contend that the article alluded to, proves nothing, and can settle no point in husbandry, for the writer states that he planted twenty two bushels more seed on the acre of the uncut than on that which was cut. Who can say what might have been the produce of the Cut seed, had there been as much used as of the Uncut seed?

I have made an experiment which satisfies me that there is no difference in the produce of cut or uncut potatoes. My rows were about six rods in length. I first planted two rows with good sized uncut seed, one in a hill, I then cut a quantity of potatoes the same size into four pieces and planted the second two rows with four pieces in a hill, making the same amount of seed as were put into the first two rows In the third two rows I planted three pieces in a hill, and in the fourth too rows, two pieces in a hill.

On digging and measuring the potatoes, I found that those which were uncut and those which were planted four pieces in a hill produced the same amount. Those that had three pieces in a hill produced one peck less, and those that had two pieces in a hill, produced a bushel and a peck less. A Rustic.

For the Genesee Farmer.

Ashes as a Manure.

I have been in the practice of applying ashes made on my own premises, as a manure, in the following manner: I take wood ashes, after they are leeched and thrown together with those of stone coal from one or two grates, and spread them early in the spring on clover land, and sometimes on corn after planting, at the rate of (probably) forty bushels on an acre, with great effect on either of those crops, especially on a heavy clay soil, which is here generally allied to lime stone; the effect on a warm slaty soil not so great. I think I can trace their influence from five to seven years. Ohio Farmer.

For the Genesee Farmer.

Kiln-Dried Flour.

Mr. Tucker—I question the doctrine of kiln-drying Wheaten flour. My experience on kiln dried Indian meal renders me somewhat sceptical as to the expediency of using the process on any flour or meal. That the kiln-dried meal will keep, there is no doubt; but if the negroes of the southern states and West Indies may be believed, its nourishing qualities are in a great measure destroyed. Kiln-dried corn meal is very similar to saw dust, and the negroes universally complain that they cannot live on it. It would therefore appear that other principles besides moisture are carried off by the heat. Whether this will apply to wheaten flour is yet undetermined, but the process should be adopted with caution.

December 6, 1834. Experience.

A Dissertation on Making and

APPLYING MANURE.

[To the writer of the following, Mr. James Hale of Alstead, (N. H.) the Merrimack Agricultural Society awarded their Premium for the best essay on the subject of making and applying manure:]

It has been observed by a writer on agriculture, that manure stands in the same relation to the farmer which a stock of goods, calculated to meet the market, does to the merchant. Whether the comparison is correct or not in every point of view, it cannot be denied that manure is an article of the greatest importance to the farmer. It is the intention of the writer to present to the punlic, in a plain and concise manner, for the aid of the practical farmer, as well as to excite investigation, a few ideas on the subject of making and applying manure.

MAKING MANURE.

This subject comprehends not only the best manner of saving and preserving the manure which is naturally made by a stock of cattle on a farm, but likewise the best method of increasing that quantity by the aid of other materials. The manure made in stables during the winter season should be cleanly thrown from the same every day, and the stable floor well littered with straw or refuse hay. The litter, besides increasing the quantity of manure, conduces to the ease and health of the cattle, and increases both the quantity and quality of the milk of cows. The cattle in the winter should usually be confined in the farm yard, and the cows at least should be yarded during the night in the summer season. It is said by practical farmers that three loads of manure, kept under a cover through the spring and summer are worth four exposed to the air during that time.

The manure made by fatting hogs should be frequently cleaned from the hog house and placed in the yard adjoining, (no farmer should be without a hog yard,) and the sty should be frequently replenished with plenty of straw or other litter.

But the thriving, economical and scientific farmer will not depend solely on the preceding methods for his stock of manure, but for the purpose of increasing the quantity of the same, will frequently make calculations resembling some or all of those which follow; and not only make, but actually put them in practice; for give me leave to observe, the calculations alone will make very little manure.

THE FARM YARD.

As soon as the haying and harvesting season is over, the farmer should commence collecting a large quantity of brakes, swamp grass, or coarse refuse grass of any description, and after having removed the manure from his barn yard, spread the brakes, &c. over the whole surface of the yard. There is no danger of getting this covering of too great a depth. It should be suffered to remain in this situation till the next fall, when together with the dung and urine of cattle with which it is mixed, it makes an excellent manure, and should be carted out and laid in large heaps, for the purpose of being placed in the hills of Indian corn or potatoes the ensuing spring. It is believed this is the most profitable method of making and applying such manure If used the spring after it is made it is not sufficiently rotted or de-

composed to become the proper food of plants. It may be worth observing that the practice of covering the barn yard with brakes is very beneficial to the cows kept in the yard during the fall season, and is equally as necessary as the stable litter in the winter. These weeds are very injurious to our pastures, and every cutting tends to destroy them.

THE HOG YARD.

With a little labor much valuable manure may be made in this enclosure. It is strong, rich and oily, and the fermentation of it proceeds slowly, consequently it affords more steady and durable nourishment to the plants to which it is applied than most other manures, and answers a good purpose when mixed with a large quantity of earthy or vegetable substances.

For the purpose of increasing the quantity of this manure, the farmer should deposit in his hog yard at every convenient opportunity, chip-dung, rich earth, weeds, leached ashes, leaves, moss turf, and such other substances as his ingenuity may suggest; for no person should allow himself to be an entire book farmer, or servile imitator. That the mixture of the several ingredients may the more readily and efficiently be performed by the swine, a little corn or other grain should be sprinkled over the yard.

This is a good manure to enrich the exhausted soil of a garden, or to spread on land to be planted with Indian corn; but perhaps the best manner of applying it is to cart it out every spring, and place it in the hills of Indian corn or potatoes. If the crop be not a good one where this manure is used, we must look for the failure from some other cause than the want of an excellent manure.

THE COMPOST HEAP.

Manure combined of different materials, and of such other substances as are calculated to act upon each other by fermentation or otherwise, are eminently useful in increasing the fertility of soils, and promoting the growth of vegetables.

Select some convenient spot not far distant from the back part of the house, or near the barn yard, and cart or place thereon, not in layers, but judiciously mixed or shoveled together, such substances as the following, viz: rich earth, such as may be obtained from ditches or the sides of the road; mud or the dirt from hollows, which have received the wash from rich lands, marle, ashes, oily substances, soot, putrified flesh, dead animals may be buried in the compost heap, if placed at such a depth as to prevent noxious effluvia, woolen rags cut in small pieces, scrapings of the cellar and kitchen yard, of lanes and back yards after rains, rubbish of old chimneys, earth that has been long under cover, salt, old brine, blood and soap suds. These should be frequently mixed together, and at each stirring much more common earth, or that which lies adjoining the heap, may be added. If this manure be designed for a cold, stiff clayey soil, sand or dry sandy loam should be a principal ingredient; but if for open, light, sandy ground, clay should be added. It would be well to add to the heap some warm manure to promote its fermentation; sheep dung would be the best. Straw, refuse fodder, brakes, or any other such vegetables, would be better disposed of in the barn yard than in this heap. The making of such a heap causes an appearance of neatness to exist about the house and other buildings; and besides being a rich manure, the removing of so much rubbish to its proper place is conducive to the health of the occupants or inmates of the house.

This is a good manure to spread on tillage land, just before sowing it with wheat or any kind of grain and hay seed. It should be covered in the soil with the harrow. It will cause the grain to grow luxuriantly, and the land seldom fails of being well stocked with grass. It may be profitably applied to gardens, and as a top dressing to wet, cold mowing lands.

PEAT MOSS OR SWAMP MUD.

This is a substance which yields little or no nourishment to plants unless it be mixed with barn yard or stable dung, or some kind of hot manure to bring it into a state of fermentation; in this case the mixture may be used in the same manner and nearly to the same effect "weight for weight as barn yard dung."

The cheapest and best manner of making this kind of compost manure is, when the barn yard dung is carried into the field, early in the fall a certain quantity, say one half, or even two thirds of the heap may be composed of swamp mud, which should be well mixed with the other manure. The whole mass at this time will undergo a strong fermentation, and become a good manure. Some practice carting swamp mud into the barn yard; but in this case the two kinds of manure will not so well assimilate by fermentation, as when they are both moved at the same time and mixed together. The mud should be removed from the swamp, and left to dry some weeks before it is carried to the compost heap. I tried some of this compost in the hill for corn and potatoes, on a dry, warm soil; it consisted of nearly two thirds mud; but with the corn, barn yard dung had the advantage, though in this case the mixture was probably beneficial.

APPLICATION OF MANURE.

In addition to what has been before remarked on this subject, some further observations will be made, founded on information derived from my own experience, the best authors, and the most intelligent agriculturists.

Stable dung or animal manure ought to be spread on tillage land designed for corn or potatoes the spring after it is made, and well mixed with the soil, by the harrow first, and then the plough. This mixture of the dung and soil should be performed immediately after the manure is carried from the heap to the field. If the small heaps are suffered to remain in the field during a fermentation, there is great loss of heat, of volatile, fluid, oily, and gaseous matter, by their dissipation in the atmosphere which would, if the dung be speedily and properly buried in the ground, be communicated to the soil, thus securing to the plants the most nourishing properties, and the whole strength of the manure.

As it respects their speedy application, the same remarks apply to all kinds of manure, as well as to that of stable dung.

Some are of the opinion that stable and farm yard manure ought always to be applied in a recent state, that is previous to their rotting or decomposition. In this case the manure must be spread on the land as above directed as new dung will not answer a good purpose to place in the hill for Indian corn; and it is not so good on most soils for the potatoe hill, as that which is somewhat decomposed and rotten. Barn yard dung may be profitably applied, as before observed, in the hills of corn and potatoes; and if so applied it should not be applied in a recent state.

With regard to the quantity of manure to be applied to an acre of tillage, many circumstances must be taken into consideration, such as the strength of the soil, the kind of grain or produce to be raised, (Indian corn requiring the largest quantity,) and the kind or quality of the manure to be applied. The farmer, in making his calculations on this point, should not apportion his manure to the quantity of ground he may wish to place under tillage; but should apportion his ground to the quantity of manure he can command. "Scanty dressings," as the term is, should ever be rejected. "We till too much land." is an expression in very common use; but instead of being a vague speculation of the brain, it should be reduced to the actual practice of the land.

In this application of manure, the quality of the soil and of the manure should be considered. A cold, stiff, clayey, or wet soil, requires a hot fermenting manure, and one not much decomposed, and that too in considerable quantity, that the cold nature of the soil may be corrected by the warmth of the dung; on the contrary, a dry, warm, sandy soil requires dung more decomposed and putrified, and a less quantity answers a good purpose. On such soils a compost of dung and peat moss, as before described, is a very suitable manure.

On the use and application of Fossil Manure, gypsum, lime, marle, clay, &c. much has been said by many writers on agriculture; but it is believed but little use has been made of their speculations, in this part of the country, except as it relates to the use of gypsum. Gypsum does not operate as an excessive stimulus to the soil, but as a direct food for the plants. It should be ground fine before application, "the finer the better;" it is then called Plaster of Paris. It is most beneficial to clover, and for this crop should be sowed in April, broad cast, after the rate of four bushels to the acre. When applied to corn and potatoes, it should be put into the hill at the time of planting. Warm, dry, sandy soils, receive the most benefit by the use of plaster. Should the farmer wish to try an experiment with this manure, a little of it sown on such land, newly stocked with clover, will test its usefulness. If sowed in a wet time, or just before a rain, the result is more perceptible, as it requires 500 times its weight of cold water to dissolve or decompose it.

LIME,

As Sir H. Davy remarks, when slacked and exposed for some time to air, becomes combined with carbonic acid, and is then a useful ingredient in soils. Lime should never be mixed with stable or barn yard dung, as it destroys much of their nutritive qualities. Rich loams abounding with vegetable matter, cold, boggy, swampy soils are greatly improved by lime, as it accelerates putrefaction, and removes every thing noxious or hurtful for vegetation. A strong, clear, stony soil receives but little benefit by the application of lime. When applied it should be spread and ploughed into the soil. Its greatest effect is

on wheat. But the large quantity of this article necessary to make a perceptible improvement in the texture or fruitfulness of the soil, renders it too expensive a manure for the greatest number of our farmers. On this subject an English writer* observes: "The general allowance, in the estimation of experienced farmers should be at least three or four hundred bushels an acre."

BURNT CLAY

Is used as a manure by some farmers with great success. The nature of clay is entirely changed by the process of burning; its tenacity and cohesiveness is destroyed, and it is rendered dry, warm and friable, and its cohesive property cannot be restored by the application of water; hence it make a good manure for all cold, wet, compact, and particularly clayey soils; and greatly improves such soils, to which in its natural state its application would have been detrimental. Ten or fifteen cartloads is sufficient for an acre. It should be spread and mixed with the soil by the plough or harrow. It makes a good top dressing for such cold, wet grass lands as cannot be profitably brought into tillage by the plough.

Should the farmer, like the professional man, the merchant and the ingenious mechanic, bring the reflecting powers of his mind to bear on his business and calling in life, and reduce to practice the theoretic investigations which would be the necessary result—a general system of neatness and order would exist about our dwellings, and our fields wear the appearance of luxuriousness and plenty.

From the Freeman's Journal.

SIR—The subscriber having obtained from England the following recipe for the cure of the Scab in Sheep, and having understood that this disease prevails in several flocks in this county, and having ascertained its entire efficacy in eradicating the most formidable disease, *except the Dog*, to which this most useful animal is liable, communicates it to the public under a sense of duty to his fellow-citizens the wool-growers, in full confidence that they will as readily communicate to the public any discovery of importance, the result of their experience and observation in relation to the important interests of Sheep husbandry. ERASTUS CRAFTS.

Laurens, Dec. 4, 1834

Sheep Ointment.

Take of quick silver 1 lb; Venice turpentine ½ lb.; spirits turpentine 2 ounces; work these articles well together in a marble mortar, until the quick silver is well incorporated with the other two, or "killed," as it is generally called, which you may conclude it to be when, on taking a small quantity of the mixture out of the mortar and spreading it on the palm of your hand, you can discover by the closest examination no globular or shining particles of the silver remaining. This process may be performed in 5 or 6 hours, or it may take a longer time. Then take 4½ lbs. of hog's lard washed free from salt, (if it contains any,) melt it gradually over a slow fire, and, when milk warm, add to it the other mixture, and keep stirring it until it grows stiff—it is then quite ready for use.

The labor necessary to make this ointment, may to some persons appear very considerable; but its quality wholly depends on the perfect union of the quick silver with the other ingredients. Four times the quantity, if wanted, may be made in nearly the same time in a larger marble mortar, or in an iron pan sufficiently large to hold the whole, using a wooden pestle 5 inches in diameter, rounded so as to fit the bottom of the pan. One pound of the ointment is sufficient to dress 15 sheep of a moderate size for the scab, and if only slightly infected, it will be sufficient for from 15 to 20. Many farmers are in the practice of dressing all their sheep and lambs every year, whether infected with the scab or not; and the reason they assign is, that it destroys filth, promotes their general health, and causes them to thrive much faster. The quantity they use to prevent infection is not more than 1 lb of ointment to 25 sheep. The ointment should be neither too stiff nor too thin; if the former, it cannot be properly rubbed on the parts; if the latter, it is too liable to run off and be useless. A moderate consistence, that it may be easily spread, is preferable, and easily obtained as follows, viz: If the ointment is made during summer or in warm weather, best leave out 1 lb. of lard, and in its place add 1 lb. black rosin, melting it with the lard previous to adding it to the quick silver and the other things as before directed—increasing and diminishing the quantity of rosin to suit the climate.

Manner of using—Place the sheep upon a cratch or bench, with its belly downwards. The salver sits at the narrow end, with the head of the sheep towards him, beginning close behind the ears, opens the wool down the back to the tail, all along about three inches from the back bone, then take some ointment on the tip of the fore finger, beginning at the rump spread it all along to the shed—four sheds may be made on each side and one from the udder up the middle of the belly to the throat for sheep in a healthy state; but for diseased ones, apply the ointment on the scabs, also around the edges well. October is the best time to apply the ointment when used to prevent the scab; but when diseased, must be used immediately. If a second dressing be required, or more, you will be guided by the appearance of the scabs, as to the time between each dressing. If the scabs begin to rise and the sheep to cease to bite them, and so on, you will conclude the ointment is producing the desired effect, and needs no repeating; but if the irritation continues, and no amendment perceptible, in three or four weeks salve again. Be careful to keep the sheep from exposure to wet for at least 48 hours after dressing. N. B. Spirits turpentine weighs 1½ lb per quart.

[The ointment spoken of in the foregoing recipe, is the common *unguentum*, to be had at the apothecary shops.—*Editor.*]

* Author of the complete Grazier.

Alternate Husbandry,

Has been a principal means of converting one of the poorest counties of England, the county of Norfolk, into one of the most productive and wealthy. Most of this county possesses a sandy soil. Sixty years ago summer fallows, according to Young, were common there, and fields were left in grass three years. At the close of the last century, according to the same writer, no such things as summer fallows were known, and grass was left but two years. The number of horses was lessened; ploughings were not so frequent, often but one for barley; and some trusted to mere scarifying, and succeeded well. This change of system had the effect to increase the product one-quarter and one-third. The same system is coming into operation upon our sandy soils, and with equal if not greater advantage.—*Cultivator.*

PRICES CURRENT.

ARTICLES.	PER	*Dec.* 20. ROCHESTER.	*Dec.* 13. NEW-YORK.
Ashes—Pot....	100lbs.	$3,40.....	$4,20 a 4,25
—— Pearl..	.....	3,60.....	5,20 a 5,50
Beeswax, yellow	lb.	0,18 a 0,20	21 a 22
Candles, mould	.....	0,11½a0,00	10. a 13
—— dipped.	.....	0,11 a 0,00	9 a 11
Cloverseed.....	.....	6½..... ...	9 .a.10
Flax, American.	.....	.....	8..a.09
Flax seed, clean	tierce	9,00a10,00	14,25a14,50
Flour, Western.	barrel	4,75.....	5,06a5,18
Grain, Wheat..	bushel	0,75a.0,00	1,04 a1,06
—— Rye....	.....	0,50.....	65.a..66
—— Oats...	.....	0,28..a..30	40.a..41
—— Corn...	.....	0,50.....	62.a..66
—— Barley..	.....	0,50..a..00	62.a..64
Hemp, Americ'n	ton	.....	100 a 120
Hops, 1st sort .	lb.	0,20.....	14.a..16
Plaster Paris...	ton	6,50 a 0,00	2,00 a2,25
Beef, Mess....	barrel	7,50 a.9,00	8,50 a 8,75
—— Prime....	.....	5,50 a 0,00	5,50 a 6,00
Pork, Mess....	.....	15,00a00,00	13,00a13,50
—— Prime....	.....	10,00.....	8,50a9,00
—— in the hog.	100lbs.	3,50 a 4,50	5,00.....
Tallow.....	.....	6,00 a 7,00	7,00 a 7,50
Hay.....	ton	9,00 a 11,00	9,75a11,20
Apples.....	bushel	50.a.100	.....

Rochester Seed Store & Horticultural Repository.

No. **5** *Arcade Hall, next door but one to the Post-Office.*

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM, having completed their assortment, now offer to the pubiic the best and most extensive collection of Garden, Field and Flower Seeds, ever before offered in the Western country.

Their stock is entirely new, and having been purchased directly of the growers and importers, the vitality and purity of the seeds are expressly guaranteed. Farmers and Gardeners will find a great variety of new and valuable Seeds not heretofore introduced into this section of country.

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Merchants and others supplied with assortments of Seeds for retailing at a liberal discount.

All orders for Seeds, Fruit or Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Grape Vines, Green-House Plants, &c. &c. by mail or otherwise, will meet with prompt attention.

Cash will at all times be paid for Grass and Clover Seed, Peas, Beans, &c. dec 9—r4tfif

Monroe Horticultural Garden & Nursery.

THE subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German, English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses, Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots, &c. &c.

ALSO—A few hundred of the Morus Multicaulis, or Chinese Mulberry, the White Italian Mulberry by the hunbred or thousand, Grape Vines of both native and foreign varieties, mosty of large size, for sale by the single vine, hundred or thousand, at reduced prices. The subscriber has a large collection of Green-House Plants of choice and select varieties, and in good condition.

☞ Orders for *Mr.* Rowe's Nursery received by the Publisher of this paper.

Catalogues will be sent to those who wish them, gratis, or may be had by calling at the office of the Genesee Farmer. ASA ROWE.

Greece, *Monroe* co. N. Y. Sept. 13, 1834.

From the American Quarterly Review.

Theory and Practice.

The science of political economy, like other sciences, is a collection of general truths and principles, deduced from an extensive and accurate observation and collation of facts—not the limited experience of a single individual—but the extended experience of nations; not the facts of a single district or of one age, imperfectly observed and falsely reasoned from by any uninformed mind—but facts from all countries and many centuries, diligently and minutely analyzed and compared, and the principles and truths deduced by many able men, whose minds, stored with various knowledge, accustomed to investigation, and trained to the art of reasoning, were devoted intensely, for years, to the subject. But there seems at the present day, even among persons sufficiently enlightened upon other matters, a great rage for what is called "practical knowledge"—a term difficult to define, but which from the way in which it is generally used, appears to be synonymous with intuitive knowledge.

The professors of this species of knowledge term themselves "practical men," and seem to be of opinion that there is not *any* thing in heaven or earth not circumscribed within the limits of their philosophy. What they *see*, they believe —the facts of their own experience and the events which are passing around them, are the data upon which they build *their* theories; and their imperfect and confused deductions, from scanty and inaccurately observed facts, are by the vanity of ignorance preferred to the discoveries of science and the conclusions of reason.—"Practical knowledge" is, by those philosophers, opposed to theoretical knowledge. Theoretical appears, in their vocabulary, to mean any thing that is written in a regular methodical manner—and practical knowledge, the information gained, and the conclusion drawn from individual observation, and from reading newspapers and speeches in Congress.

It ought to be generally known, that theory is nothing more than the conclusion of reason from numerous and accurately observed phenomena, and the deduction of the laws which connect causes with effect;—that practice is the application of these general truths and principles to the common affairs and purposes of life; and that science is the recorded experience and discoveries of mankind, or, as it has been well defined, "the knowledge of many, orderly and methodically digested and arranged, so as to become attainable by one."

Every man who observes a phenomenon, and attempts to account for it, or draws a conclusion from its occurrence, is guilty of theorizing. The "practical" man, however, goes no further than the fact before him—he gives a reason for its occurrence, if he can, which not being capable of further application, and not comprehending any other facts, even if it be correct, is comparatively useless. The scientific man, not content with observing one fact, collects many, and by discovering their points of resemblance, and tracing the chain of causes and effects, arrives at a general principle or law, capable of extensive application and varied usefulness.

A "practical man" sees the lid forced off from a vessel of water, when the water is heated. If he attempts to give a reason, he says, that it was because the steam could not escape, and he resolves the next time to leave it a vent. The philosopher from this phenomenon, is led to the examination of others, and through a train of investigations and discovery which terminates in the steam-engine.

The "practical man" goes to market in the morning, and always finds as many commodities as he wishes to purchase. If he thinks about so ordinary an occurrence, he supposes very justly, that the owners of the commodities come to market because they expect to meet purchasers, and that they sell their goods, because they prefer having his money. A scientific man, from this phenomenon, and from a careful analysis of it and analogous facts, discovers the true principles which regulate demand and supply, with all their important results.

A "practical man" is told by his neighbor that he intends to withdraw from the business in which he is engaged, and invest his capital in another, where he has good reason to expect more profit. He commends the prudence of his friend, and perhaps looks closer to his own affairs. The scientific man, upon being told the like thing, meditates a little more deeply, and reasoning from particulars to generals, arrives at length at the conclusion that the industry of a country will be most productive when least interfered with.

The "practical man," if he happens to live near a manufactory, upon the introduction of an improvement in machinery, whereby the work formerly performed by six men can now be done by two, sees a number of poor laborers thrown out of employment, and a number of families reduced to want. He is induced to suppose that labor-saving machinery is an evil, and productive of poverty and wretchedness—and if he is a passionate man as well as a practical one, he thinks the workmen would serve their employers right by destroying the machines. The scientific political economist, on the contrary, from the examination and comparison of many acts, and from a train of comprehensive and accurate reasoning, is convinced, that notwithstanding the partial and transient evil caused by their introduction, every improvement in machinery by which the cost of production is diminished, is a permanent advantage to all classes of society.

The True System.

EVERY MAN THE ARCHITECT OF HIS OWN FORTUNE.

"Fortune, a goddess is to fools alone,
The wise are always masters of their own."
POPE.

It cannot be too early or too deeply instilled into the minds of the young and inexperienced, that the means of happiness and riches, are in a great degree, in every man's power. A blind belief in destiny or fortune acts as a powerful stimulus to indolence and indecision, and makes men sit down and fold their hands in apathy. Nothing is more common in the world, than for people to excuse their own indolence by referring the prosperity of others to the caprice of fortune. Success, every experienced man knows, is as generally a consequence of industry and good conduct as disappointment is the consequence of indolence and indecision.

The difference of the progress which men make in life, who set out with the same prospects and opportunities, is a proof that more depends upon conduct than fortune, and if a man instead of envying his neighbor's fortune and deploring his own, sho'd inquire what means he has employed that he has neglected, he would secure a result to his wishes.

But the great misfortune is, few have courage to undertake, and fewer candor to execute such a system of self-examination. Thousands thus pass through life, angry with fate, when they ought to be angry with themselves—too fond of the enjoyments which riches procure, ever to be happy without them, and too indolent and unsteady ever to pursue the legitimate means by which they are attainable.

While the progress of learning and education confer upon the present race a polish unknown to their fathers, they are apt to magnify this merit, and regard their elders as being of an inferior capacity. They forget the difference between such attainments and tastes differ widely from that sober and experimental knowledge bearing upon the real business of life. Even a man of very ordinary parts who has lived long in the world, and perhaps, after a thousand blunders, learnt to conduct himself with ability and prudence, is better qualified to impart instruction to others, than those more remarkable for other talents and attainments. If men were guided by the councils of experience instead of their own imagination, there would be a mighty diminution of that misery with which ignorance and obstinacy are constantly filling the world. False confidence in personal sagacity and power has ruined thousands.

The mind of man, like his body, is in a continual state of revolution. A newly discovered truth or opinion may change his views entirely, and give a new turn to his most ordinary action. This error he perceives and feels, but never anticipates. He overrates his knowledge and attainments, and although at every new addition to them he discovers his former deficiency, he still flatters himself that he has reached perfection. Like the torrent that rushes from the mountains, he begins his course, filled with a thousand impurities, and it is not until his knowledge has passed through the filters of the world, that error and prejudice sink to the bottom, and truth assumes its native transparency.

The young generally find it as difficult to enter into the feelings of the old, as to read with their spectacles, or walk with their crutches. But they should remember that these wary advisers were once young and romantic like themselves, and that it is from a knowledge of the errors into which such feelings are apt to betray us, that they caution us to be on our guard against their influence. We would not assert that there are no prejudices peculiar to age, or that the young are never in danger of being misled by their seniors and instructors—this would be saying too much. It is sufficient to affirm that the instances in which the old are apt to feel biased, are precisely those in which the prejudices of the young run strongest in a contrary direction—and that, at all events, there is infinitely more danger to be apprehended from their paying too little, than too much, deference to the opinons of others.

LIFE.—Life is a fountain fed from a thousand streams that perish if one be dried. It is a silver cord, twisted with a thousand strings that part asunder if one be broken. Frail and thoughtless mortals are surrounded by innumerable dangers which make it much less strange that they almost all perish suddenly at last. We are encompassed with accidents ever ready to crush the mouldering tenements that we inhabit. The seeds of disease are planted in our constitutions by the hand of nature. The earth and the atmosphere, whence we draw our life, are impregnated with death—health is made to operate its own destruction. The food that nourishes the body contains the elements of its decay—the soul that animates it by the vivifying fire, tends to wear it out by its action—death lurks in ambush along all our paths.

We have gloomy accounts, remarks the St. Louis Register, of the health of the troops at Fort Gibson, A. T. About one hundred men, belonging to the regiment of Dragoons, have died. The last letters announce the decease of Lieuts. Eastman and West.